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Embracing the Stormy Sea-OVID-19

September 10, 2020

By: Jesse Stewart, Staff Writer



Director Jesse Stewart and actor Sam Li on the set of a Chinese miniseries.

In March of last year, I was on a date with a model at a fancy Italian restaurant in Hong Kong. In March of this year, I was alone in my parents' basement with a plate of chicken tenders. I ordered chicken tenders in Hong Kong as well, but that's not the point.

To say that COVID-19 has upended the average life would be an understatement. Every nation has been brought to their knees, economies slowly sinking and people more unsure and insecure than they have been since the Second World War. Even those that love to plan and prioritize have found themselves look at not just the coming year with uncertainty but the coming week.

I am among those that had a 'good' life before the pandemic. For the first time in my career and far younger than expected, I was going to make six figures in 2020. I'm a filmmaker and the third 'big' project of my career was set to shoot in the summer. I was a bit ambitious as well, planning to take those six figures and use them to shoot my debut feature film, with the goal of having it ready for festivals in 2021. In reality, through no fault of my own, I had lost thousands of dollars by the end of Spring and my industry wasn't even sure how it could possibly exist in the current state of the world. Sure, the quarantined masses need entertainment, but how are projects supposed to be funded when no one has any money? If actors need to stay six feet apart, how are we supposed to shoot that romantic scene where they share chicken tenders?

My initial reaction to the pandemic was somewhat average. I had a part-time job that immediately shuttered because it was based on theatre, opera, and symphony patrons, an entire demographic that has temporarily ceased to exist. I used the free time to finish a screenplay or two as well as indulge in what will likely become one of the most significant media releases in history, the video game *Animal Crossing: New Horizons*. Focusing on my inner creativity as well as my digital bonsai tree was beneficial: like many, I would argue that I 'grew' as a person through this isolation and seclusion.

I had the benefit of staying with my parents at the time, but I own a small business: though my rent was now significantly cheaper, it's not like my bills stayed six feet away. My business partners and I looked at options for 'COVID-proof' film concepts, but it's very difficult to draw up battle plans for a large group effort when the legalities of basic congregation are in flux almost daily.

By the end of June, I had imploded. There's only so much 'character development' and 'internal growth' one can undergo before weakening your sense of self to the point of collapse. Flurry, the winter-themed hamster who lives on my *Animal Crossing* island, may be the sweetest being in existence, but she doesn't actually exist. They may be quick and tasty, especially with a bottle of orange sauce from Panda Express, but I can only eat so many chicken tenders. I am a modest and frugal man, but even I have my limits.

When faced with a massive difficulty in life, or even a multitude of minor troubles that coalesce into a solid mass of problems, there are really only two options. One can simply stop, resign themselves, and sink into the abyss, choosing to see the present condition as insurmountable. Or one can strategize. I grew up reading a lot of military books, learning tactics and maneuvers; it's simply a matter of physics in saying that there are only four options when faced with an opposing force in your path: you can go over, under, around, or through that which is antagonizing you.

In quarantine, I had inadvertently grown to be much more complacent than I usually am. I think I rationalized this at the time as a 'strategic retreat': I would save as much money as I could, by living with my parents, in order to ensure that I could help finance my feature film. I would work on myself, striving for self-improvement with free time I didn't have before. And I would 'relax,' by playing a video game for the first time in a long time. But the problem was that each of these little endeavors had no metric for progression or advancement, as there was no external force by which to measure them against.

COVID-19 is not an opposing obstacle in anyone's path: it's a state of reality. In the same way one wouldn't lament the fact that they can't breathe underwater, one must accept that there is a respiratory disease that spreads through close-contact infection and can't simply be 'willed' out of existence. COVID-19 is not a stone in your path, it's the uneven stones upon it. The terrain of life has changed, your tactics should change along with it.

By the start of July, I surveyed the peaks and valleys of 2020, those rolling hills that I didn't expect when I crested the New Year back in January. Filming anything this year seemed to be a foolish proposition, but remaining slow and reserved until conditions improved was clearly not giving me enough momentum and causing me to sink. John A. Shedd once said, "A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for"; the peaks and valleys of 2020 aren't as solid as land, we're faced with the rolling waves of an unsure sea.

So, I set out to find, inscribe, and place distinct milestones to place on my path. The film industry is often a 'wait-and-see' business, where one hands off the baton and waits for their

colleagues to return it after running their lap, so chopping my own entirely-individual trail was something I hadn't done in a while. It's definitely odd to cut a path only wide enough for one.

Though I couldn't quite afford it in these unsure times, I found a great apartment in Denver. Not as great as my apartment in Beijing, but I learned to humble my expectations and have now fallen in love with my home. I hadn't done manual labor in years, but I found a part time job loading shipping boxes into the back of shipping trucks so they can be shipped to the coast and into shipping ships. Each day is tough, dirty, and tiring, but I sleep like a baby. And I returned to college to finish my degree, after quite a long sabbatical, having left to pursue my career; a decision that paid off until a force of nature ground the entire globe to a complete halt. Like Mike Tyson said, "Everybody has a plan until they get punched in the face."

The benefit of COVID-19 directly punching the lives of just about every human being on the face of the planet, arguably making it the most significant event in history since the Ice Age, is the psychological advantage of knowing that one is absolutely not alone in this crisis. The event may be unprecedented, but there are far too many people affected by this for any one situation to be entirely exclusive to just one person. Whatever you're struggling with or whatever discomforts you face, there are thousands if not millions of others who are just as unsure, uncertain, unstable, uneasy, and unprepared for tomorrow as you might be.

I look around the campus at Regis University and it feels like an alternate reality to me; I didn't have the money to go to college when I graduated high school, regardless of how badly I wanted to go. Never in a million years would I have dreamed that I'd have a beautiful academic refuge and be surrounded by such bright young peers. I specify 'young' because I'm a little bit older than most students, still in my twenties but only just, while they're all so bubbly, smiley, and taking this crisis in stride. I'm happy to see they're facing this seemingly- ceaselessly-stormy sea with open sails.

Three years ago, my feet climbed on the ancient bricks of the Great Wall. Two years ago, they drooped over the mossy canals quartering the streets of Amsterdam. Last year, they dangled

over the waters of Victoria Harbour as Hong Kong struggled over who they wanted to be. This year, well, the rug having been pulled out from under me; I've no choice but be head over heels about being up in the air and excited to see where my feet may land next. In the meantime, maybe I'll get lucky with the in-flight meal, "Flurry! They're rolling out the chicken tenders!"

Announcement from Asian Student Alliance

September 14, 2020

We, as the leadership of Asian Student Alliance, request that our learning environments remain inhospitable towards hateful speech, including but not limited to:

- "Wuhan virus"
- "Chinese/China virus"
- "Kung flu"
- Threats or demands that individuals "go" or "return" to other countries

While we understand the importance of freedom of speech and expression, we believe these terms endanger the safety and wellbeing of our students. These terms create association between a deadly disease and a specific identity, fueling stigmatization that puts an entire community at risk.

We ask that faculty prevent, address, and eliminate the use of these terms in favor of scientific, universally-accepted names such as COVID-19, etc. This will ensure a safer, more productive learning environment for everyone. Furthermore, this will demonstrate our university's intolerance towards hate, bias, prejudice, and racism.

We also stress the importance of reporting incidents in which these terms are used, regardless of whether they are targeted at a specific individual/group. Only by reporting can we obtain the data necessary to form effective solutions in the future. The bias incident form

for Regis University can be accessed using the following

link: https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?RegisUniv&layout_id=4

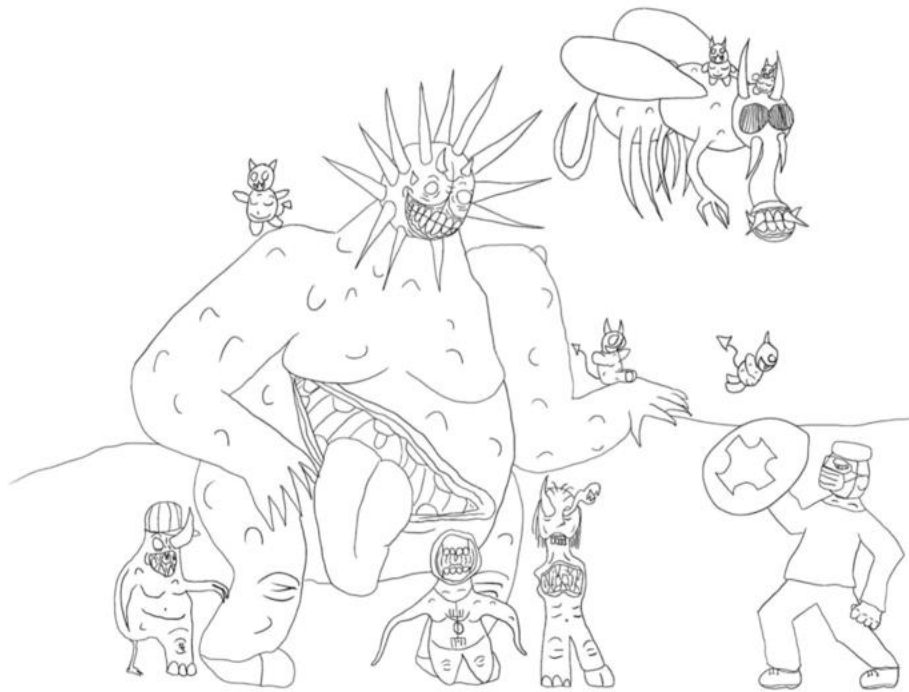
As a Jesuit institution, Regis University is committed to *cura personalis*—encouraging care and concern for the whole person—and we believe our request will help uphold this value in our learning environments. We are grateful, in advance, for your efforts to promote equality at Regis University.

Regis University Asian Student Alliance

The True Soldiers at the Front Line

September 15, 2020

By: Armando Covarrubias, Cartoonist, Writer



Regis Club Fair Goes Virtual

September 18, 2020

By: Carly Compesi, Staff Writer



Mikaela Taylor roams the Regis club fair while navigating the Sims-like program Degy World with her virtual avatar. *screenshot courtesy of Mikaela Taylor*

With new safety measures in place, clubs and organizations were left without an in-person club fair. The solution? Regis University stepped into a new world: Degy World.

Degy World is an interactive platform that turns people into avatars. These adjustable avatars can walk, talk, and even dance through the platform. And the biggest advantage? Avatars can do all of their walking, talking, and dancing while users remain in the safety of their own homes.

According to the director of Student Life, Dave Law, the Degy World experience had a certain, Sims-like quality. Much like the life simulation video game, Degy World allowed avatars to roam freely around the event spaces, all of which were customized to better represent Regis University. Using these avatars, students could wander through the “Champions Center” to

discover clubs and organizations. Many of these clubs and organizations had booths with club representatives, giving students an opportunity to connect, and exchange information with one another.

Students could even enter the “Oasis Stage,” which featured live musicians on a virtual beach. Their avatars could dance along with other viewers or explore the surroundings from the nearby lighthouse. While the Oasis had me wishing for a tropical vacation, it certainly did its best to bring the sun and the sand to Regis.

For those of you who didn’t make it into Degy World, or for those of you who can’t wait to go back, you may be in luck. Degy World could host future Regis University events, as was suggested by a few RUSGA representatives. The club fair may have been the first time Regis students could enter this virtual world, but there is a chance it won’t be the last.

Freshman Year of Zoom University

September 23, 2020

By: Sarah Gomez, Staff Writer

Coming into a new environment all alone, as a teenager, is difficult to say in the least. Starting without any family or friends and having to live on your own for the first time in your life is a terrifying thought. Every new freshman faces this challenge, but eventually, everything works itself out, right? Friends are established from dorm floor movie nights and joining clubs during welcome week. It gets easier when you feel less alone when you have a friend to eat dinner with or even just someone in your class you can study with. Freshman year is hard for everyone, but it gets easier once you have something to look forward to, even if it’s something as silly as watching a movie on the quad.

This semester has been like one never before. There have been so many changes to classes, even the ones in person feel surreal. Having classes with masks, spread across the room was something unimaginable this time last year. For the most part, up until March of this year,

going to class was something close-knit. A classroom was a place to ask questions and interact easily, and now it feels like there is never a good time to unmute the mic on the Zoom call.

If you stop to think about what the college experience is known for, you'll find yourself thinking about parties or on-campus events, hanging out with friends, or even being able to engage with your classes. Parties are an obvious loss, COVID-19 made that clear, but the semester is not even halfway through and we have already lost a majority of the other things as well. Everyone on campus is aware of these challenges and for the most part, is trying their best to counteract them. We have seen the efforts taken by the programming board to keep everyone busy and doing some things on campus. From the Wednesday activities to the movies on the quad, the highlight of many students' weeks was participating in those events. Sadly, the state of Colorado's Department of Health instructed the university to postpone further events, making everything all the much harder. From laser tag to just watching a movie you love, there are no longer fun activities to get students out of their dorms.

Though it has been said time and time again that "we are in this together," the challenges we are facing are not equally distributed. A big challenge many first-year students run into is having to start all over. Out of state students and even those from Arvada have problems making friends in their classes or even friends around campus. Some people are having an amazing experience, they have friends from years past with them to enjoy this time with. Some people have friends or family near campus and can enjoy a break from the stress of school and enjoy some familiarity. Some people have no one, people who came from states away, all on their own, and have no one they know for hundreds of miles. Yes, it is very annoying that you can't hang out with all your friends in a study room but it's even harder having to go on without even having friends. That's not to say people haven't put in efforts to make these connections, it is just exponentially harder.

The classroom is a difficult space to make friends nowadays for many reasons. If you are lucky enough to be in person, there is no longer the option to send a kind smile across the room, for it's covered by a mask and doesn't look too inviting. It's even more difficult asking classmates questions now too, since the muffling of the mask makes it easier to just go on without a clue.

It is hard to look forward to the future when the only news we seem to be getting is negative. From the quarantine of the Residence Village to in-person classes always being “next week,” the idea of being able to thrive as a freshman feels a bit ironic. How can we be expected to get out and involved in our community when we have already been told that doing so would result in a fine or worse. The extent of the college experience first-year students are receiving is limited to what we can manage in the walls of our dorms and windows of our technology.

To be a first-year student during a global pandemic has been difficult to say in the least. All of high school we were told college would be life changing. Yet, this semester has been so similar to the last semester of senior year, it has yet to register in my mind that I’m in college at all. I’ll be sure to document when my Regis University experience begins, but for the time being, Zoom will have to suffice. The Class of 2024 has four years ahead of us, hopefully, one will be what we have been waiting for.

RV Residents Speak about Quarantine

September 25, 2020

By: Morgan Jacobus, Editor-in-Chief



photo courtesy of Morgan Jacobus

Last week, Residence Village residents were sent shocking news: that all of them were being forced into quarantine. Such a decision impacted 137 students. This event carried so much magnitude that it was even covered by local news stations like The Denver Post, KDVR, and 9 News.

Due to the high levels of frustration coming from the students affected, we at the Highlander decided to send out a form to welcome responses from the RV residents themselves. When filling out the form, students had the option to remain anonymous, and many chose to take

advantage of that option, which was anticipated due to the controversial nature of the situation at hand.

The email announcement was sent Tuesday 9/15 at 7:10pm

“Over the last week, we have experienced a pronounced increase in the number of positive cases on campus. In particular, the number of cases in the Residential Village have made up nearly 60% of all cases on campus since the new academic year began. As a result, the University has received orders from the DDPHE to enact increased measures to slow the spread of the virus. As such, in accordance with the revised guidance, we are directing occupants of The Residential Village to engage in a period of Enhanced Quarantine & Self-Monitoring for fourteen (14) days beginning immediately. This quarantine is scheduled to expire at 8 a.m. on September 30, 2020 but may be extended as needed to slow the spread of the virus within our community.”

Many students felt that there were communication problems with how the announcement was made and how some further questions were not answered.

“I also didn't appreciate the email coming to us after hours. It felt like they didn't want to answer questions or want to talk to us. There was some limited information and it was confusing. Communication is so important even now and it's not fair that we weren't given proper nor respectful communication the day we were notified,” wrote anonymous.

“I wanted to know why no one else had to quarantine, and I have yet to get a good answer,” wrote anonymous.

Some students didn't understand why dorms weren't more affected by cases and/ or quarantine.

“I think in some ways its what should have happened overall at other dorm [buildings] since [there’s more] shared areas, [whereas] the RVs are shared between a small amount of people,” wrote an anonymous student

“I think the quarantine should be for everyone in all dorms rather than just the RVs if they are trying to contain the spread,” wrote an anonymous student

“I think that it is unfair that all of us have to be quarantined, even if our tests come back negative. I think this because we don’t all live in a shared building, instead we share with 3-5 others. I think it would be more understandable to quarantine a whole dorm, as they all have a common entrance, staircase, and bathrooms,” wrote an anonymous student.

There were also disagreements about provisions about the quarantine. Some of the guidelines were expected, such as: no guests; not gathering in common spaces without masks and social distancing; not being allowed to go to an on-campus job, the library, the gym, and other buildings on campus excluding the dining hall. However, while there were several guidelines that made sense to the residents, there were some that they struggled to agree with.

For instance, the email mentioned that students were allowed to visit the dining facilities in the Student Center or Claver Hall on a “grab and go basis” while wearing masks and practicing social distancing. However, once the quarantine was put in place, there were questions of how effective this guideline was, and how well the enforcement was of students leaving their RVs.

One anonymous student wrote, “I also don’t understand what the point of ‘quarantine’ is when we can go to the caf and can leave to go off campus and there are such loose rules on regulating us going anywhere.”

According to the email, the RA’s would “be entering common spaces at least once every evening and documenting any violations.” However, another aspect of the quarantine that was questioned in the responses was the role of the RA’s and how well they were upholding their responsibilities.

“[The quarantine is necessary] because people are being selfish and ignorant and some even neglecting their responsibilities that give them free [room] and free meal plans and even a small scholarship,” wrote an anonymous student.

Another anonymous student wrote, “I feel the leadership shown by most of the RAs has been very questionable. If I am not wrong, the head RA lives in 303 and they are the loudest ones on the block sometimes. I have seen many people come in and out of their RV throughout the last couple of weeks (no maks btw) and have even been woken up by their music. If Regis wants us to follow their guidelines, then they should hire those who also follow them.”

However, the most objection in the responses came in related to the requirement to get tested, but “testing negative will not expedite release from quarantine,” according to the email. Out of the 19 responses, 13 responses included frustrations about being in quarantine even if their entire RV tests negative.

Some students wrote:

“I thought it wasn’t smart to quarantine people that may not even have the virus,” wrote anonymous.

“... if every person in an RV tests negative, then we are in here for no reason. We aren’t spreading the virus if we all test negative, so why should we be punished?” wrote Matthew Gaffney.

“I dont think it makes sense to get punished for other people’s dumb actions, especially since some of us have been following the rules and also tested negative,” wrote anonymous.

“... if you test negative then let us be FREE,” wrote anonymous.

“It is a good idea to slow the spread but, I feel like if my test result is negative, and my roommates are as well, we should be able to go to classes and buildings on campus,” wrote Molly Schmanke.

"I also don't find it fair that if we get a negative test result we still have to be quarantined. If our whole RV tested negative we should be able to leave," wrote anonymous.

"I'm still at a loss as to why we must [remain] quarantined even if we get a negative test result. Unimpressed," wrote anonymous.

Other grievances about the quarantine include how it is punishing the mass for the mistakes of the few. Many students commented on how they believe that this action was the result of a few people choosing to not follow COVID guidelines for the entire campus, leading to the entire Residence Village being placed under quarantine.

"I think it's inconsiderate to punish all RV residents due to the mistakes of a few people," wrote anonymous.

"I think that it's not fair that we all have to be quarantined when it's only a select few not following the rules. I also think that is unfair that everyone is getting punished when we have been doing what we were told. It's also not fair that we are the only ones getting punished when there have been others not following the rules," wrote anonymous.

"I do appreciate Regis taking this seriously and having us all test, but I do also think it's ridiculous that all of us who have been following guidelines are being punished even if we test negative for covid. I'm missing classes I cannot make up at all during this time and it's putting a lot of stress on me," wrote anonymous.

Further building upon the common theme of thinking of the quarantine as a punishment was the expression of outrage by several students for the people who weren't being careful.

"Those actively choosing to ignore are self-centered individuals who see themselves above the common good and should be addressed as such," wrote an anonymous student.

"I feel like I'm being punished for other people that lack self-control and responsibility. To those people who decided they wanted to go to parties off campus: fuck you," wrote an anonymous student.

“There are definitely people still seeing each other and this is doing nothing except ruining things for those of us who are actually following the rules,” wrote an anonymous student.

Other complaints came in the form of questioning the effectiveness of this safety measure in comparison to what else could’ve been done.

“... the school is reacting rather than preventing. Had they been here to shut down all the parties, maybe we wouldn’t be here (not to say that the party people should have been partying in the first place [eyes emoji]),” wrote an anonymous student.

“I don’t appreciate being locked up in my room when I don’t feel sick and I’m not showing any symptoms. I came to live on campus accepting any risk that may present itself hoping I could [at least] try to have a [half-way] normal semester. I get isolating anyone who is actually sick but why the students who are in perfectly good health?” wrote an anonymous student.

Though this quarantine, and other measures the university may take, is the reality for the time being, some students are choosing to make the best of the situation by trying to understand the precaution.

“I think it is an unfortunate necessity,” wrote an anonymous student.

“COVID is not a joke and I am so surprised people still think that way. Almost 200k in the US alone have died because of this awful virus. Please just wear your masks and take this quarantine seriously. Don’t sneak out, stay home, catch up on homework, bond with your roomies, I honestly don’t care. But please be aware that your actions affect all of us This [is] a community, it is time to start thinking that way,” wrote an anonymous student.

As Regis’ “new normal” continues to change, the students and the Regis community have to adapt along with it, whether they agree with it or not. However, if you wish to speak out about something that you think isn’t fair, send a response to theregishighlander@gmail.com and we might share it!

Thank you to everyone who responded to our form, I tried to represent as many voices as I could in this article.

(Note: response excerpts were used to illustrate certain themes among responses, responses were edited for clarity through the use of brackets but were otherwise untouched.)

Triumph over Turmoil

September 28, 2020

By: Alaina Valdespino, *Staff Writer*

Maybe It's just me, but some days I wake up feeling like it's the same old story. That minutes become hours, hours become days and somewhere along the way the leaves turn and the calendar changes. Maybe it's the uncertainty. The dysfunction perhaps? Either way, it's like I'm stuck in this cycle of not knowing when things will start to be normal again.

And sure, I could blame the elephant in the room that is COVID-19. Or pin it on 2020 like most Gen Z Twitter users. But at the end of the day, what good does that do?

Does it really make a difference to know that the trajectory of my life is being altered because of things I can't change?

Again, maybe it's just me, but some days I wake up feeling like it's not going to be a great day. That things aren't perfect. And you know what, that's ok. It's the circle of life. One day is sunshine and rainbows and then next is just a feedback loop of turmoil and struggle. That might be the anxiety talking, or the fear of not being as in control as I may want to be, but regardless of what it may be, that's how things are right now and at the end of the day, that's valid.

If there is one thing this COVID stricken semester has taught me, it's that having these feelings of uncertainty is merely human. Some days we wake up dysfunctional and that's valid. Our feelings are valid and despite the absurdity of these times, we always have the opportunity to see the light at the end of the tunnel. So, rather than exhausting my efforts looking for

someone or something to blame for the craziness and adversities in my life, why not try to overcome them? Instead of letting the clock tick and the days pass by, why not use this time to my advantage. To use it as an opportunity to better understand myself and to grow from all of the turmoil that this pandemic-centered era has thrown at me?

COVID has caused a lot of change, more specifically, a lot of unwanted change. I wasn't ready to completely adjust my life to wearing masks and not hugging my friends, but that's how things are. Sure, I could see it as my glass being half empty, but wouldn't that also mean that my glass is half full?

Perspective.

We've all been given the opportunity to see the good in this unprecedented situation and to rise above it. To see these obstacles not just as something to get over, but as something to learn from. We have that capability. To turn our adversity into triumph. To not only adapt to the adversity, but to come up with new ways to see things in a brighter perspective. We've all had this curve ball that we call COVID-19 thrown at us. We've all been dealing with the insanities that have accumulated in 2020. It's impacting all aspects of our lives.

So whether it's one of those days where you wake up 5 minutes before your Zoom lecture and leave your camera off because you're wearing pajamas, or when you wake up ready to be the most productive version of yourself possible, know that it's your decision to see things better than they are, to be as grateful as you can for the opportunity of growth that this year has given you, and to be ready to get up each day and continue to triumph over your turmoil.

The Penitent Soldier

September 29, 2020

By: Armando Covarrubias, *Staff Writer/ Cartoonist*

Forgive me Lord for I have sinned. I have strayed from your light and now I am broken. As I lay on my knees upon your house. As the fear of what is yet to come, an inquisitor, dressed in garbs of red, black, and white with golden embellishments, carries the book in one hand, and the cone on the other. By her side was an acolyte wearing white robes. The inquisitor looked down at me and stared into my eyes, or rather into my soul.

She asks me, "Do you have any idea of the weight of your sins?"

I looked up and responded with a yes.

"Do you know why you have done it?" she asks.

I did not respond, for I was pondering about that. Why did I commit sin? Why did I choose this life of debauchery, manipulation, disgust, and bloodshed?

She then asked me a different question, "Do you know what is to come next?"

My train of thought stopped. I looked up at her and stated yes.

"Then you would have known better than to give yourself up to the unholy gods. You chose the pathway to hell just because 'the gods' would have made your life easier."

It was at that moment I understood something about myself.

She continued, "You were created in God's holy image, and you chose to become an ungrateful little brat wishing you had a different father than the one you had."

As every word exudes from her mouth I fell closer and closer onto the marble floor until I was on my fours.

"You will not be executed, but you will be punished. Get up." I look up at her. "Get up!" She shouted as I stood.

Her acolyte seated me onto a chair where the priest would have sat. As I sat down the inquisition gave the acolyte the book, and grabbed a key from her pocket as she put the cone on my head. It was made of iron and had a face on the front wearing a crown of thorns. On the highest part of the cone was a cross painted on the cone. As the helmet was put upon my head the interior had spikes inside. I did not feel pain, rather mild scratch. The inquisitor inserted the key in the back of the helmet.

Before she turned the key she spoke to me and said, "Do not think I find any enjoyment out of this, you have broken my heart as you did to the father." I could hear her trying not to cry. As she held back her tears she said, "May you learn from your sins."

She then turned the key and at that second the nails were injected into my skin - piercing my flesh, bone until I could feel it in my brain. I screamed every part of me was in pain. Every cell in my body was in torment, every thought in my mind was a nightmare, every inch of my soul felt a burning sensation more painful than the fiery depths of hell itself. I could do nothing but scream, I couldn't do anything but scream. I lied on the floor in torment as the acolyte looked on in fear.

From what I could gather, the inquisitor turned to the acolyte and said, "This is the fate of damned. Do not dare to stray away from God's holy light, and if you do I will not hesitate to punish you as I did to him."

After that everything went red. I could not hear anything but my screams echoing from the cathedral. This was my penance, and I will not lie, I deserved every ounce of torment. If God is truly merciful he will end my suffering once I have entered the battlefield. For that, I say with whatever is left of my fractured mind "Miserere Nobis."

What You Need to Know About Registering to Vote

September 30, 2020

By: Sarah Gomez, Staff Writer

In the past few months we have heard a lot about voting. The biggest thing, though, is that we have to register to vote. Something that sounds so simple can easily get complicated for a variety of reasons.

If you are a resident of Colorado, meaning you have a state-issued ID or driver's license, then you can go to onto the Secretary of the State's website under the elections tab, the register to vote link on the right

column (<https://www.sos.state.co.us/voter/pages/pub/olvr/verifyNewVoter.xhtml>) and fill out required fields. Overall a relatively simple process.

However, for out of state students that are confused on how you can register, the process gets a bit more tedious, but nothing to fear. The hardest part about the process for our out of staters is going to be having to mail in a voter registration form. In order to register you must fill out the mail-in form found by going to the same page to register online, but continuing to click the link provided at the bottom of the page labeled "Paper Voter Registration Form (PDF)" (<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/vote/VoterRegFormEnglish.pdf>) with your current Regis address (3333 Regis Blvd and your hall and room number), then you have a few options. You can mail in the filled out forms to the Department of the State, or scan and email the completed form to elections@denvergov.org.

There are some important things to remember about registering to vote. You may only vote once, that means you cannot do a mail in ballot for your home state and vote in Colorado too, that is a felony in certain states and is strictly prohibited in Colorado. The deadline to register to vote online or by mail in Colorado is Oct. 26th, while in person registration does not close and can be completed up to election day (Nov. 3).